Airport express rail link in Hyderabad

*148. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the latest status of the request of Andhra Pradesh Government to develop a dedicated airport express rail link from the existing Begumpet Airport to the new Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad;

(b) the details of the said proposal; and

(c) by when this rail link is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) An Express Rail Link was proposed between the old Begumpet Airport to Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at Shamshabad to offer fast, safe and convenient approach to the passengers. In this regard, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) had prepared a Detailed Project Report. The proposal was not found viable by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) in view of huge cost involved and also not convenient to the public. Therefore, the GoAP has taken a decision to go for a comprehensive rail network for the city of Hyderabad including airport at Shamshabad in place of proposed Express Rail Link.

(c) Does not arise.

Disinvestment of PSUs

*149. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to disinvest selected Public Sector Units (PSUs);

(b) whether it is going to maintain the harmony amongst the employees in the PSUs proposed for disinvestment; and

(c) whether there will be consultations prior to virtual disinvestment of these PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. NHPC Limited, Oil India Limited and RITES Limited had proposed to make public offerings of equity. The Government decided to disinvest a small portion of equity out of its shareholding in these companies in conjunction with their public offerings. The public offerings of NHPC Limited and Oil India Limited are likely to be completed in the current financial year. The public offering of RITES Limited has been deferred for the present by the company due to change in capital requirements of the company.

While considering the recommendations of Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises for revival/restructuring of loss making Tyre Corporation of India Limited (TCIL) and Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited (CIWTC), Government approved disinvestment of the two companies.